

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ohmori et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, because the cited reference does not disclose (or suggest) the feature of the present invention for changing the operation clock based on the setting of the operation clock, which is based on the transfer command received from the host device.

The present invention is directed to a method and apparatus for reducing power consumption during data transfer, i.e., when writing or reading data. To achieve this, operation clocks used by an HDC, interface and memory are changed respectively based on the transfer command received.

Ohmori relates to a technique for improving data transfer reliability by setting a slew rate increasing the time margins without deteriorating a data transfer rate. To achieve this object, the host system of Ohmori selects a data transfer mode between the host system and HDD satisfying ATA and ATAPI specifications, and the maximum transfer rate corresponding thereto. The best slew rate of a strobe signal and the data signal corresponding to the transfer rate is selected.

Ohmori, however, does not disclose (or suggest) changing of the operation clocks of the HDC and memory based on the transfer command from the host device. Ohmori does not aim to reduce power consumption when writing or reading data, as in the present invention.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claimed invention. The Examiner should contact Applicants' undersigned attorney if a telephone conference would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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